

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

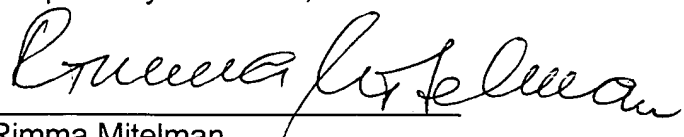
The claims have been amended to delete the preferred and most preferred ranges. The subject matter of claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the specification, page 23, lines 15 – 16 to exclude liquid compositions. Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended to recite 0 to 5% phosphate builder in accordance with the specification at page 11, lines 23 – 26.

The amended claims distinguish more clearly over the cited art. Specifically, Blything, US Patent 6,720,298, Singh, US Patent 6,689,735, Singh, US Patent 6,759,380 all recite compositions comprising 10 – 80% by weight of a detergency builder. Consequently, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over these patents should be reconsidered and withdrawn. With regard to Masaki, JP 01066298 and Kao Corp., JP 6306093, both teach liquid compositions. Consequently, applicants' amended claim 1 is not anticipated by either of these references.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application as amended be allowed to issue.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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